

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CU-02 AID-05 OPR-01 SY-04 NIC-01 /070 W

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R 231215Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2222

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SEDU, GR

SUBJECT: THESSALONIKI STUDENT DEMONSTRATION JAN 22

REF: THESSALONIKI 50

1. APPROX 4,500 DEMONSTRATORS ASSEMBLED AS PLANNED AT ARISTOTELOUS SQUARE STARTING AT 1600 JAN 22 (REF). PRIMARILY STUDENT GROUP, WHICH PAPERS OF JAN 23 ESTIMATE AS HIGH AS 8,000, HEARD BRIEF SPEECHES FROM OVER TWENTY REPRESENTATIVES OF LEFTIST GROUPS, INCLUDING THE "REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY OF JORDAN". ORIENTATION OF GATHERING WAS DEFINITELY COMMUNIST WITH LARGE RED BANNERS, HAMMER AND SICKLE, AND USUAL SLOGANS CLEARLY IN EVIDENCE. DEMONSTRATORS CARRIED FEW PLACARDS SUCH AS "OUT WITH ANGLO-AMERICAN", BUT FOCUS WAS MAINLY ON "DEMOCRATIZATION", NEW CONSTITUTION, AND "DEJUNTIZATION" OF EDUCATION. GATHERING POORLY ORGANIZED AND LITTLE ENTHUSIASM OR APPLAUSE NOTED FROM CROWD. MEMBERS OF RIVAL LEFTIST GROUPS SCUFFLED BRIEFLY FOLLOWING SPEECHES. NEW DEMOCRACY STUDENTS ALSO DISTRIBUTED PAMPHLETS THROUGHOUT CITY CONDEMNING EXTREMISTS AND URGING BOYCOTT OF DEMONSTRATION.

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2. AT CONCLUSION DEMONSTRATION, LARGE PART OF CROWD

MARCHED THROUOH PRINCIPAL CENTER CITY STREETS BACK TO
UNIVERSITY WITHOUT INCIDENT. NO EFFORT MADE TO APPROACH
AMCONGEN OR BRITISH CONSULATE, BOTH UNDER AUGMENTED
POLICE GUARD.

3. ON CAMPUS, MED STUDENTS STILL OCCUPY SCHOOL BUILDING
AFTER FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT AT JAN 22 MEETING (REF).
NEW MEETINGS NOW IN PROGRESS TO VOTE ON CONTINUING
OCCUPATION OF BUILDING AND BOYCOTT OF CLASSES. "MAKEDONIA"
COMMENTS, HOWEVER, THAT BOTH OCCUPATION AND BOYCOTT
LIKELY TO CONTINUE. IN ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT HERE,
CHIEF ED KYROU IN "ELLINIKOS VORRAS" OF JAN 23
EMPHASIZES GROWING LOCAL REACTION AGAINST STUDENT
ACTIVISM.
BRENNAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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